

"In our time none has the conception of what is great. It is up to me to show them"

Napoleon's Report Card

Nick Yun

Subject	Grade for Achievement	Grade for Effort	Key reasons for these grades	Suggestions for improvement
Domestic Policy	A-	A-	<p>Pros:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - He opened public schools - Appointed better positions for merit not wealth - Established the Napoleonic Code - Purified the once corrupt government system - Gave bishops the power to appoint priests <p>Cons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Appointed family members the leaders - Had secret police that stopped any opposition to the government which took away freedom 	<p>Napoleon did a very good job with domestic policies but he appointed family members as the leaders which is never good in what is trying to become a free nation. He also had secret police that stopped any opposition to the government which took away some rights of the people which again is not good for a republic nation. He should have listened to the ideas and thoughts of the people so that he could improve upon them. Napoleon should never take away rights in an empire that is has just come out of a revolution for more rights and freedom. By taking those rights away, he put himself in a dangerous position.</p>

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Subject	Grade for Achievement	Grade for Effort	Key reasons for these grades	Suggestions for improvement
Foreign Policy	A-	A-	<p>Pros:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - scored major military victories with a modernized French army against any major power in Europe such as Russia, Prussia, Austria, Italy, and Spain - Wanted to unify European countries as a whole under one civil code by methods such as creating kingdoms - Used methods such as blockading and different styles of warfare. <p>Cons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Refused to give in when he had the chance - Heavily taxed countries that he owned causing rebellions 	<p>While Napoleon was busy occupying new countries and fighting new wars, he was waging outrageous taxes on the countries he had occupied. This led to rebellions within his empire. Napoleon should not be too offensive and mind what is happening in his empire as well. All must be functioning well in an empire. When Napoleon was cornered and had almost no chance against the allies, they asked him to return to France's original state but he refused which led to his exile. Napoleon although a brave leader should have given in to the allies when he didn't stand a chance. He only humiliated himself by being pushed back further.</p>

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Subject	Grade for Achievement	Grade for Effort	Key reasons for these grades	Suggestions for improvement
Ability to gain trust of his people	A	A	<p>Pros:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Unified the people in the state of war - Set up public schools - Promised victory - Conquered many states and countries - motivated soldiers with his charismatic speaking - showed gratitude with pay - fought with the soldiers - Gave bishops the power to appoint priests <p>Cons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Used secret police to shut down any opposition to the government which prevented any advice that Napoleon could have used - He lost confidence after returning from exile leading to his downfall 	<p>In terms of gaining trust from his soldiers, he had no problems. He was motivating and fought alongside the soldiers. But because he took away rights such as freedom of speech, he lost support in the war. He should have gained the trust of the people and took in advice that could be used. He also lost confidence after returning from exile. I think it was possible to make a comeback but he started becoming more prudent and not taking the offensive as he did before his exile. In war, it is always important to be offensive.</p>

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Extended- [- negative] [+ positive]

Domestic Policy	Foreign Policy	Ability to gain the trust of his people
- Appointed family members as leaders of the countries he had conquered	- Refused to return to natural boundaries in return for peace by the allies	+ Unified the people in the state of war to feel pride and patriotism
+ Paid government officials with high pay to purify the once corrupt government system	+ scored major military victories with a modernized French army against any major power in Europe such as Russia, Prussia, Austria, Italy, and Spain	+ Set up public schools which granted high positions to merit and not to the wealthy
+ Opened lysees otherwise known as public schools that are funded by the government	+ Wanted to create a unified European continent under one rule and code	+ Conquered many states with his military prowess until his downfall to the allies.
+ Combined french laws into codes that are consistent throughout his territory	- heavily taxed foreign countries that he had conquered for the war causing rebellions	- Used secret police to shut down anything that might oppose Napoleon's government and empire which prevented advice and the thoughts of the people
+ Conquered however lost what is today Russia, Prussia, Austria, Italy, and Spain +	+ Established the Continental Blockade to harm British trade	+ He first won the trust of his generals and then the loyalty of his soldiers by promising them victory and glory
+ Centralized government	+ Napoleon engaged in combat differently than most strategies. He introduced different styles of fighting such as the square line up.	+ He was a very charismatic speaker and knew exactly how to motivate people
+ Set up new administrative and legal uniformity	+ transformed the Italian republic into the kingdom of Italy	+ He showed gratitude to the soldiers and fighters by giving them a higher pay then normal

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Domestic Policy	Foreign Policy	Ability to gain the trust of his people
- Had secret police to shut down any opposition to his government	+ The Batavian republic was transformed into the kingdom of Holland	- He lost confidence after returning from the exile island leading to his downfall
+ Established the Napoleonic code which was the french civil code that compiled the laws into national codes	+ Russia and Prussia turned into French allies after being invaded	+ Napoleon fought with the soldiers showing them that he is one of them that is willing to die for his country
+ Gave bishops the power to appoint priests however separated church from state.		+ Gave bishops the power to appoint priests however separated church from state.

Napoleon's Wars and Military Campaigns, 1804-1813

3rd Coalition War	1805	Austria, Russia, Britain
4th Coalition War	1806-1807	Prussia, Russia
Spanish Campaign	1808-1809	England, Spanish rebels
War with Austria	1809	Austria
Russian Campaign	1812	Russia
Wars of Liberations	1813	Russia, Britain, Sweden, Austria, Prussia

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Napoleon Villain or Hero

If I could rate Napoleon 1~10 1 being villain and 10 being hero, I would rate Napoleon a 8. Napoleon did some acts that would seem villainous, but were very heroic in the French point of view. Although Napoleon was somewhat a tyrant, he was more heroic than he was a villain.

Napoleon was a fierce soldier that fought strong alongside his soldiers as a hero. Napoleon was generous as all heroes are. He always showed his gratitude to his soldiers and lower rank officers. He was also very inspirational as all heroes are. He motivated his people with inspiring speeches and moving statures.

Last of all, the things that he accomplished were feats of a hero. He rescued France from a state of chaos and transformed them into something new. He conquered new empires and made France more powerful than ever.

He also improved the domestic policies by opening schools, creating a unified civil code, and winning several victorious battles. He also set up new administrative and legal uniformity. He also purified the government system by taking out corrupt officials and paying new ones with high salary so they don't accept bribes. To France he did no villainous act, but to other empires, it may be different.

I lowered his grade from perfect because he made foolish mistakes such as hiring secret police which silenced the people. Because he silenced the people, it took away rights and he could not hear the people's voice. Therefore, he could not improve on his simple mistakes. He also hired only his family members as leaders of the countries he had conquered. In a country of freedom, it is crucial that the people have freedom. Doing things such as silencing the people and hiring family members as leaders, takes away freedom and caused many rebellions. I think it is safe to say that Napoleon was more a hero than a villain.

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Advice on being a Leader

Napoleon Bonaparte was a military strategist, a fierce soldier, a brilliant speaker, a brave leader. Napoleon is what you could call a military genius. Napoleon, standing at 5 feet 2 inches, became one of the greatest leader in history. So just how did he do it? Napoleon set one of the major standards to what makes a good leader. His small stature was no comparison to great brilliance. He was able to succeed because of his different ways of thinking.

Napoleon knew that in order to succeed as a leader, he needed the people to be enthusiastic about this war, about his ideas. So he planned to win their trust and loyalty. He did so with strong promises that he held high with confidence. Napoleon promised them victory and glory, and that is exactly what he gave them. Because he was so brilliant at persuading and devoting, he was able to influence them to unite as one, and fight for their country. In the end, the French soldiers admired Napoleon so much, they fought not only for their country, but their devoted leader.

Another reason why Napoleon was so successful was because of his generosity. All employees, workers, and soldiers want to feel appreciated. Napoleon realized this and put it into action. Napoleon won many battles and after many battles where the soldiers did exceptionally well, he would give them real money. He showed his gratitude unlike most generals. He would reward them with medals and money out of his own pocket. This is how he kept respect and admiration from the people. From time to time, it is important to let them know how much you appreciate their effort and value their good work.

Unlike Hitler, Napoleon showed his military prowess on the battlefield as well. He would be up in the front lines loading cannons and shooting the enemy down. He would do things that the lowest of the low would do. He got his hands dirty, and that's what the people liked. The man looked like a real leader that would do anything to win. It showed that he would sacrifice his own life for the country. This made the soldiers have pride in fighting for their country. Knowing that the leader is willing to help out when needed, is very assuring. As a leader, learn to participate in the work of those you lead.

As great a leader Napoleon was, he made many mistakes as well. Napoleon had a huge army of secret police whom shut down any opposition to Napoleon's government. I understand how he didn't want people to start rebellions, but because of this, it showed distrust in his people. It also took rights from the people. Because the people could not criticize the government in anyway, Napoleon did not learn from his mistakes. Therefore, he was not able to succeed.

Napoleon was a great leader and I admire him as well. But because of the minor flaws, it was inevitable that he would fall. He lost confidence when he had returned from exile. The once fierce and offensive Napoleon had shrunk into a more prudent man. This greatly shaped the European continent.

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Resources

1. "Napoleon": Answers to "Frequently Asked Questions" about Napoleon found in "The Essential Napoleon" at NAPOLEON.ORG.
http://www.napoleon.org/en/essential_napoleon/faq/index.asp
2. "PBS-Napoleon": Biographical information, timelines, etc., regarding Napoleon found on the PBS site.
<http://www.pbs.org/empires/napoleon/home.html>
3. "Napoleon Bonaparte: Emperor of the French...": Quick biographical summary and web links to related information from Lucid Interactive.
<http://www.lucidcafe.com/library/95aug/napoleon.html>
4. "Napoleon Bonaparte Speech--Farewell to...": Napoleon's farewell speech to the Old Guard right before his exile to Elba found at "The History Place: Great Speeches."
<http://www.historyplace.com/speeches/napoleon.htm>
5. "Napoleon Bonaparte Internet Guide": Quick links to biographical information, information about the Napoleonic Code, his military endeavors, etc.
<http://www.napoleonbonaparte.nl/>
6. "Napoleon": Biographical summary and other related links found at what appears to be a personal website. The information is copyrighted by "Smith or Smith Enterprises."
<http://www.geocities.com/soviet109/military/napoleon/napoleon.htm>
7. "Napoleon I": Biographical information provided by the Learning Network.
<http://www.infoplease.com/ce6/people/A0834841.html>
8. "Napoleon I, an Encarta Encyclopedia Article": Biographical summary from a well-known encyclopedia.
<http://encarta.msn.com/find/concise.asp?z=1&pg=2&ti=03CAC000>
9. "Florida State University...Institute on Napoleon and the French Revolution": Biographical information and links provided by a university source.
<http://www.fsu.edu/~napoleon/>
10. "Napoleonic Wars: Era of Napoleon Bonaparte": Biographical information nicely categorized by topic.
<http://www.napoleonguide.com/>